

October 2, 1946

G. J. Haering, Esq., Chief,
Visa Division,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Haering:

I have been advised that an immigration visa application is being filed at the American Consulate General in Zurich by Hans B. Gisevius, a German national.

During the war Gisevius, who at that time was attached to the German Abwehr, was Vice Consul in the German Consulate General in Zurich. He was one of the anti-Nazi oppositional group who worked with me closely and furnished information of the highest value to the Allies. Gisevius was in no sense an agent, but worked for ideological reasons and not for money. He recently gave sensational testimony at Nuernberg against Goering, although he was actually called to Nuernberg by the defense lawyer for Schacht. Justice Jackson described Gisevius before the Court as the one representative of German democracy to appear before the tribunal.

During the war days, for security reasons, it was, of course, not known even to most of our own officials in Switzerland what Gisevius was doing, and I am aware of the fact that there are in the files of the Department various reports, copies of many of which I saw at the time, which refer to his work as a member of the German Intelligence Service. I believe that such reports are to be discounted in so far as the present visa application is concerned.

The Press at the time of Gisevius' Nuernberg testimony indicated that some promise had been made to him with regard to facilitating his entry into the United States. No such promise was ever made by me as he did not ask any consideration in return for the work he was doing. I feel, however, that he deserves consideration at our hands and I should welcome an opportunity to present any further data in support of his immigration visa application when it reaches you from the Consulate General in Zurich. I may add that I have mentioned this matter to Mr. Fred Lyon and am sending to him a copy of this letter.

Faithfully yours,